

Commanding Impressions Answer Key

Step #1

Assess student participation with his/her partner.

Step #2

Now that you have read Ulysses' descriptions in one word describe General Taylor and in one word describe Gen. Scott.

Possible Answers:

General Taylor: approachable, relaxed, team player, self-confident, self-informed, prepared, humble

General Scott: controlling, dramatic, confident, perfectionist, intimidating, impressive, stringent, formal, structured

Step #3

Assess student participation in the class discussion.

Step #4

Despite the differences in communication between each General, what lesson do you feel that Ulysses learned from both Generals when it comes to communication?

Answer: Whether communication is written or oral, communication must be understandable.

Step #5

In what words does Ulysses emphasize the differences in both Generals? What do you think that emphasizes means?

Answer: Grant points out the differences in both Generals in the second sentence - "Both were pleasant to serve under—Taylor was pleasant to serve with." Answer should indicate that even though Grant served under both General Scott and General Taylor, it was not surprising to find Taylor alongside his soldiers. Evidence for this is in the word "with." Supporting evidence could include:

*Often he (Taylor) would be without staff officers, and when he was accompanied by them there was no prescribed order in which they followed.

* "word would be sent to all divisions and brigade commanders in advance, notifying them of the hour when the commanding general (Scott) might be expected. This was done so that all the army might be under arms to salute their chief as he passed. . . . His staff proper, besides all officers constructively on his staff—engineers, inspectors, quarter masters, etc., that could be spared—followed, also in uniform and in prescribed order.

Step #6

Paragraph should include why the person drew their attention and how s/he influenced the student.